

REMARKS

Claims 1, and 5-13 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended, and claims 2 and 4 have been canceled.

Claim 1 of the present invention is defined such that a second conductive layer (or, a first conductive layer) and a second electrode (or, a first electrode) having different polarities are arranged at a position facing the first electrode (or, the second electrode) and a position adjacent thereto via the non-conductive gap, and the non-conductive gap has a width smaller than a thickness of the resistance element, thereby ensuring smooth current flow between the conductive layers (or, the electrodes) adjacent to each other.

To the contrary, Koyama disclose that electrodes having different polarities are arranged at positions facing each other, but the same polarity is arranged to positions adjacent to each other via a non-conductive gap. In addition, a width of the non-conductive gap is set greater than a thickness of a resistance element, which resultantly intercepts a flow of current through the non-conductive gap (see [0056] of column 4).

Thus, Koyama is completely different from Claim 1 of this application in aspect of technical configuration.

Also contrary to Claim 1, Huang et al. shows the following current flow: “the first portion (12A) of the first conductive electrode → the first portion (11A) of the second conductive electrode and the second portion (11B) of the second conductive electrode → the second portion (12B) of the first conductive electrode” (see[0032] of Column 4 and FIG. 1).

As mentioned above, Huang et al. also do not give any teaching or suggestion in relation to a current flow between electrodes adjacent to each other. It is also presumed from the fact that Huang et al. set a width of an isolation trench greater than a thickness of the resistance element.

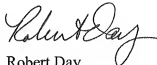
Thus, Huang et al. is completely different from Claim 1 of this application in aspect of the technical configuration.

Claims 5-13 all depend from claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and are therefore also believed to be patentable for at least the reasons provided above for claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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